

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A forme cylinder for a rotary offset press, said cylinder comprising
2 an axis and a substantially cylindrical circumferential surface for accommodating a
3 printing forme, said cylinder having an axial center and opposed axial ends, said
4 surface being convexly curved so that the diameter of the forme cylinder is greatest in
5 the axial center and smallest at the axial ends.
- 1 2. A forme cylinder as in claim 1 wherein said circumferential surface
2 has a profile which describes a circular arc.
- 1 3. A forme cylinder as a in claim 1 wherein said circumferential
2 surface has a profile which describes a second order parabola.
- 1 4. A forme cylinder as in claim 1 wherein said forme cylinder is a plate
2 cylinder having a cylinder channel extending along said circumferential surface, said
3 channel having a pair of opposed overhangs defining a channel width which is constant
4 over the axial length of said channel.
- 1 5. A forme cylinder as in claim 4 further comprising a printing plate
2 having a leading printing plate radius, a trailing printing plate radius, a pair of printing
3 edges having an edge length extending between said radii, and a center having a
4 center length extending between said radii centrally of said edges, said trailing radius
5 being bent along an arc so that said center length is greater than said edge length.

1 6. An offset rotary printing press comprising:
2 a pair of blanket cylinders set against one another for recto and verso
3 printing; and
4 a pair of forme cylinders set against respective said blanket cylinders, said
5 forme cylinders each comprising an axis and a substantially cylindrical circumferential
6 surface for accommodating a printing forme, each said forme cylinder having an axial
7 center and opposed axial ends, said surface being convexly curved so that the diameter
8 of the forme cylinder is greatest in the axial center and smallest at the axial ends.